PLATTSBURGH AIR FORCE BASE,   HAER No. NY-326-CD
FLIGHT SIMULATOR TRAINING BUILDING
(Plattsburgh Air Force Base, Building No. 2640)
Arizona Avenue
Plattsburgh
Clinton County
New York

PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

HISTORIC AMERICAN ENGINEERING RECORD
National Park Service
Northeast Region
Philadelphia Support Office
U.S. Custom House
200 Chestnut Street
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19106

HISTORIC AMERICAN ENGINEERING RECORD

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FLIGHT SIMULATOR TRAINING BUILDING
(Plattsburgh Air Force Base, Building No. 2640)

HAER No. NY-326-CD

Location:
Arizona Avenue, Plattsburgh, Clinton County, New York.

UTM: 18.622240.4946120
Quad: Plattsburgh, NY-VT, 1:24,000 (1966)

Date of Construction:
1981

Architect/Engineer:
Unknown

Present Owner:
United States Air Force

Present Use:
Vacant

Significance:
Building No. 2640 provided 18,022 square feet of flight simulator training space, 13,039 square feet of squadron operations space, and 13,439 square feet of group headquarters space. The flight simulator space housed two FB-111As and a KC-135 flight simulator and other special training devices. The building also contained space for administration and records, classrooms, trainer maintenance, and storage space for the flight simulator-training mission. The squadron operations space provided operational space for squadron-level planning, briefing, administration, and critique of combat crews. The group headquarters space provided staff office space for headquarters organizations. The FB-111A simulators were removed in 1991.

Project Information:
Building No. 2640 at Plattsburgh Air Force Base (AFB) is being documented in accordance with HAER standards to mitigate for the potential adverse effects of transferring deed of title to the property from federal ownership. The property transfer is a result of the disposal and reuse of Plattsburgh AFB, pursuant to the Defense Base Closure and Realignment Act of 1993. The mitigation is a stipulation of a Programmatic Agreement (PA) among the U.S. Air Force, the New York State Historic Preservation Officer, and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (October 2000).

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Colton, CA 92324

Summary Description of Flight Simulator Training Building (Building No. 2640)

Layout

Building No. 2640 is a 44,500 square-foot, two-story, steel-frame building with scored, precast concrete panel walls. The building is irregular in plan. The north side has three shed roof bays where the simulators were once housed, and are offset from a one-story, section with a gabled roof. The front side, west façade, is divided into four bays. The north-end has a two-story shed roof bay with large metal double doors and a single personnel door; above the metal door is an applied letter sign that reads "Operations Support Sq." To the right of this bay is another two-story shed roof bay; this bay is similar in appearance to the north bay on this façade. The last, southern-most, bay is two stories in height and topped with a gabled roof. Brown, standing-seam metal roofing material is employed on all roof segments. For the most part, fenestration is of rhythmic bands of triple segmented, horizontally siding, aluminum cased windows, although pairs of square, fixed glass lights flank either side of an entrance door on the north façade.

Alterations/Additions

There have been no known additions or alterations to Building No. 2640

Function

Building No. 2640 was designed, built, and used to house sophisticated flight training equipment and the requisite support space associated with such program.

Significance

Flight operations were an exceptionally critical element of the Strategic Air Command (SAC) cold war mission, and as such required a base of pilots who were well trained and ready to fly any required mission in a moments notice. The simulators in Building 2640 offered a safe, economical method of giving both new and veteran personnel the experience they needed to perform their mission. Because apparatuses such as the flight simulators were such important sources of training and experience for SAC pilots, Building No. 2640 was critical to not only the Plattsuburgh AFB mission, but to overall SAC goals as well.

Sources

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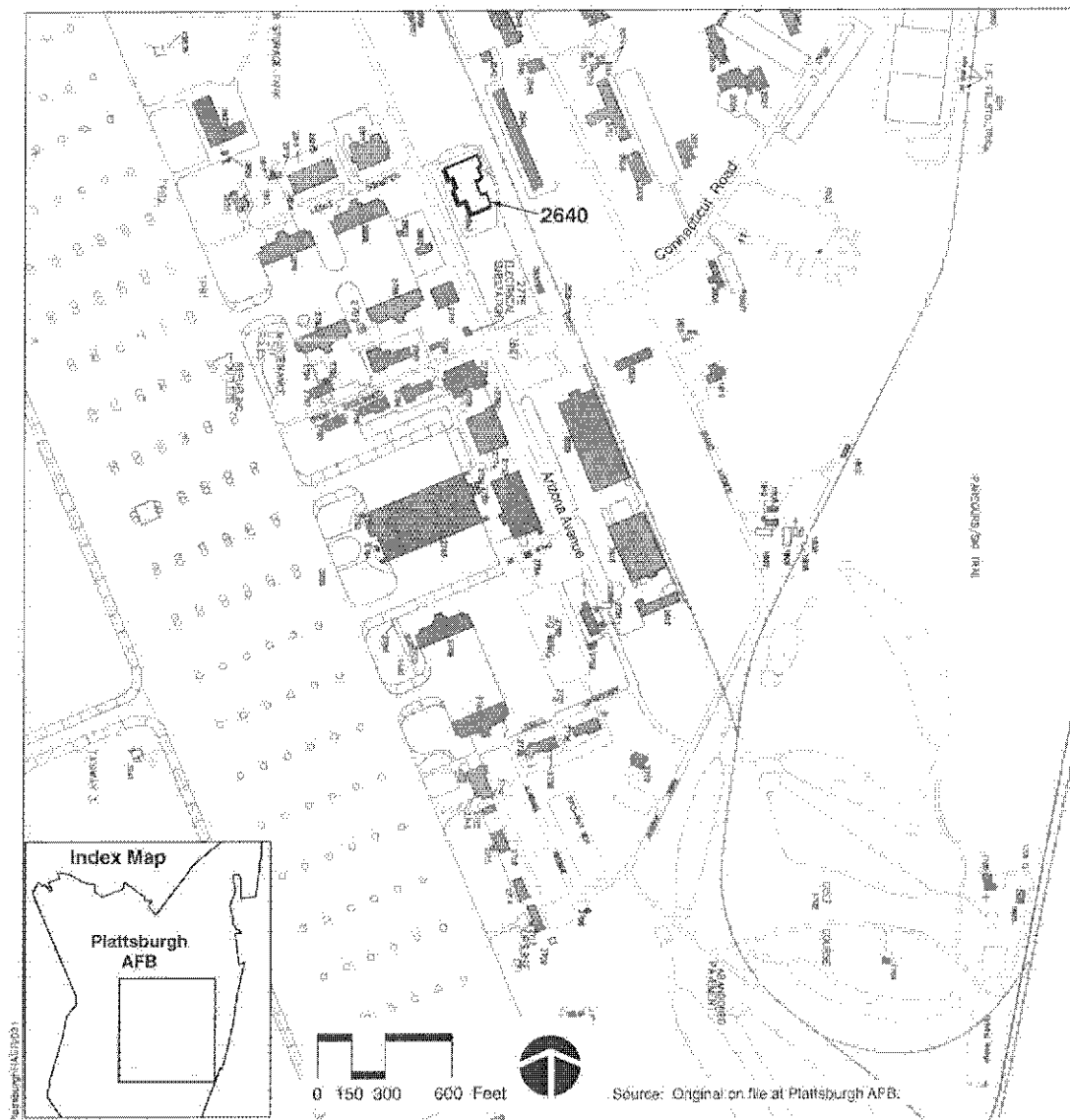1961.   Plattsburgh AFB Real Property Accountable Record, 1961-1989.

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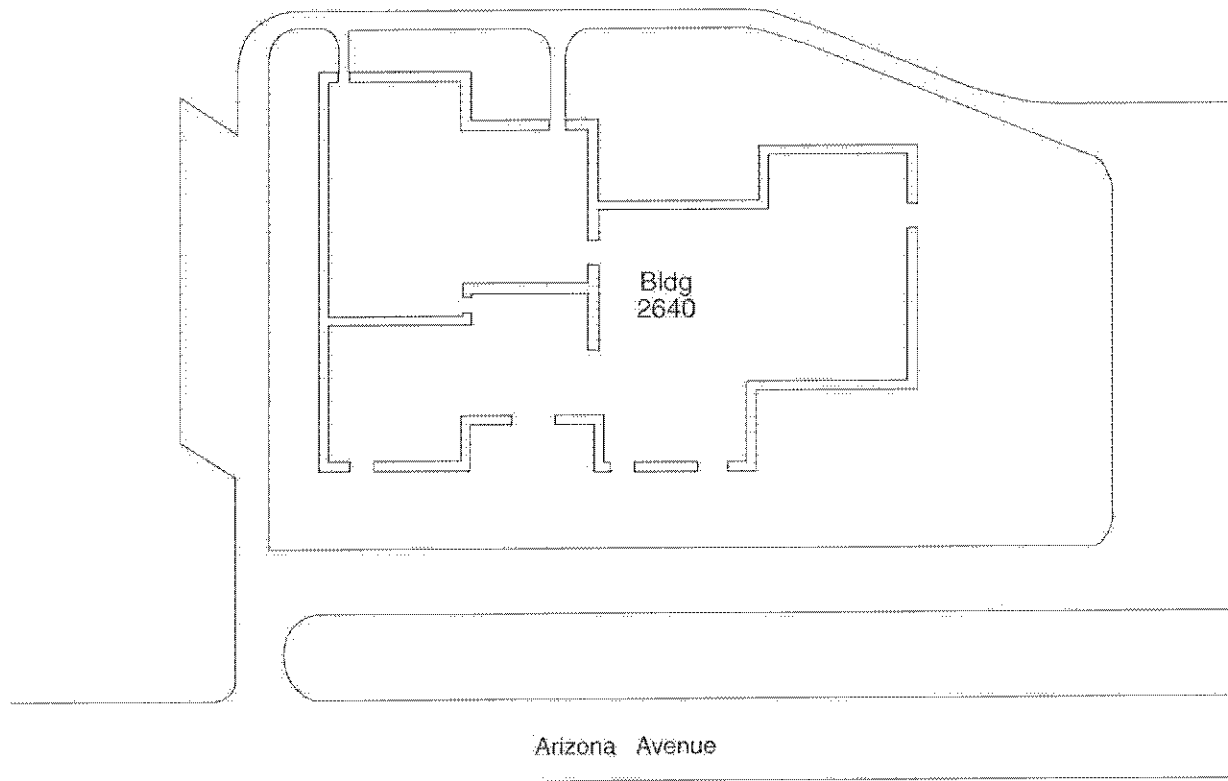U.S. Department of the Air Force, Air Force Center for Environmental Excellence
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Location Map For Flight Simulator Training Building No. 2640

Bldg
2640

Arizona   Avenue

N

Sketch not to Scale

SKETCH PLAN—FLIGHT SIMULATOR TRAINING BUILDING
(Plattsburgh Air Force Base, Building No. 2640)
(Source: Plattsburgh AFB CAD File, Prepared by the United States Air Force, ca 2000)